

Reflections

By J. HUGH SHERFVEY, JR.

OUR BACK YARD

That portion of our premises strangers seldom see is us. It is there we are ourselves, sit, work or play, in clothes that are comfortable, there, but would be disreputable anywhere else.

I like to think of Big Cities as the formal garden of our United States and a little town like ours as being the Back Yard. Our home is comfortably close to the ground—not a pent house twenty stories high. No liveried doorman, nor elevator to whisk us to the twentieth floor. Our surroundings are earthy; trees, flowers, lawn—we live close to Mother Nature. In our home we live fully, comfortably, happily. In it we may stretch out, talk to a neighbor over our back fence, nurture a seed or just sit. It's our home and we wouldn't change it for all the Front Yards in existence.

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Mortuary
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Baby Shower At Root Home

Mrs. William T. Harrison was complimented at a stork shower Tuesday evening given by Mrs. Colleen Post at her home, 18011 Ermanita in North Torrance.

The rooms were prettily decorated with potted plants which were later given as prizes. Games were played and a door prize awarded.

Refreshments consisting of a colorful salad, decorated cake and tea, and coffee were served. On each plate was a nutcup in the shape of a baby bootie. The honoree was then presented with a shower of gifts for the expected baby.

Guests were: Mmes. Meryl Nelson, Ruth Ramsey, Penny McCusker, Bonnie Phillips, Jane Duncan, Peggy Butler, Anna Currier, Pat Sorenson, Mary Bodily, Delores Shreeve, Lucile Simpson and Miss Linda Ramsey.

GROUP HOLDS SOCIAL EVENT

Games and stunts highlighted the evening when 23 queens of Khamzin Zuzanna, 127 gathered at the home of Irma Powers in Lomita March 2. Prizes were won by Jessie Green, Olive Veatch, Mary Pinkerton, and Alleyn Anderson. The door prize went to Ritta Nelson.

Maud Milburn and Dorothy Rogers assisted the hostess in serving cake and coffee.

The regular monthly business meeting of the club will be held at the Machinists Hall, 727 Elm Ave., Long Beach, on March 16 at 8 p.m.

YWCA Units Raise Funds

Young Women's Christian Association all over the United States and 66 foreign countries are celebrating 100 years of adapting to meet the ever-widening professional and emotional interest of young women.

The Torrance branch and its members are engaged in various activities to raise their share of a 5-million-dollar national money-raising plan.

Mrs. Arie Blackman, a Centennial Triangle organizer, recently opened her home, 22944 Cabrillo Ave., to some friends for a pinocchio party with prizes going to Mmes. Daryl Moon and Osa Brown. The booby prize was claimed by Mrs. Sadie Klein.

The Chamber of Commerce breakfast on Tuesday, March 8 was served by the Triangle under Mrs. Rufus Sandstrom, assisted by Mmes. John Parks, Cyril Latham, Perry Connitt, Tom Watson, and Walter Silence, and Misses Marleen Swenson, Bonnie Fletcher, Linda Lane. The proceeds from the meal will also be donated to the Torrance YW.

A canasta benefit party was held by Mrs. Donald Anderson of 1611 Fern Ave. on Tuesday evening. This affair was given by Mrs. Sandstrom's triangle.

Numerous benefit parties are planned in the area.

MEETING PLACE IS CHANGED

The meeting of the Betsy Ross Club scheduled for the home of Irene Drake has been changed. The club will meet at the home of Marguerite Morgan, 2622 Cabrillo Ave., on Tuesday, March 15, 1955. It will be pot luck and members are asked to bring their own service as planned.

Carson Civic Group Meets

Carson Civic Betterment Assn. met Monday, March 7 at the Keystone Woman's clubhouse with James H. Caldwell presiding. The group has requested the Board of Supervisors for a central civic center for the unincorporated county. The building will house a library, health center and sheriff offices.

Hammerton Tract representatives were also present to report on the sewerage project which is to begin in April. Representatives were Mrs. Ralph Meyer, Mrs. J. A. Hines, Mrs. J. A. DeJaire and Mrs. Ernest Tanner.

The association meets on the first Monday in each month.

LECTURE SERIES TO BE CONTINUED

A lecture series, "Understanding the Retarded Child," which has been in session at Narbonne High School on each Tuesday evening at 7:30, has been so successful that plans have been made to continue the series through June. Miss Arlene M. Pederson conducts the series as a part of the Adult Educational program. The meetings are open to the public.

The public relations committee of the Exceptional Children's Foundation has announced that a speaker and film on "Retarded Children" is available to all service organizations.

Others contributing to the birthday gift, presented by Jim Crane, were Jack and Bette Thomas, Bill and Eva Shanklin, Emil and Dorothy Settlage, Art Witmer and Jean Melkjohn.

Entertain at Dinner Party

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Boswell entertained at cocktails, dinner and bridge last Saturday evening at their home, 2842 Overado.

A profusion of snapdragons and stock decorated the rooms and formed the centerpiece on the dinner table.

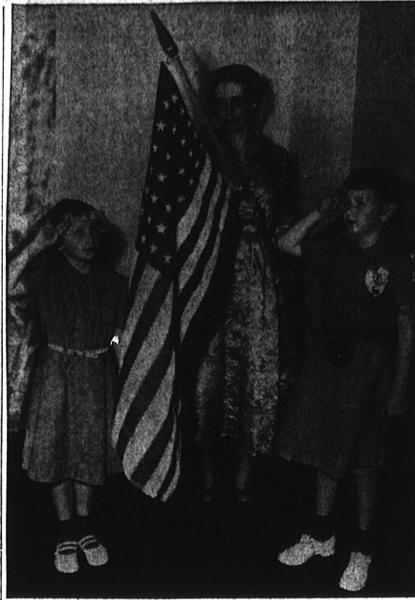
Enjoying the Boswells' hospitality were Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Wierk of Westwood, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hansen of Pacific Palisades, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stier of Los Angeles, Mr. and Mrs. R. Strum, and Mr. and Mrs. S. Boeke of Westchester.

Dance Groups Have Party

Homer Morgan, square dance caller, was complimented by his two square dance groups, the Sidewinders and the Squabblers with a birthday party last Saturday evening.

A potluck dinner was followed by dancing. Attending were Joe and Connie Silveria, Anita and Murry Ransom, Della and Bill Ewing, Jim Sttuberg, Al and Ann Sibley, Jimmy and Helen Crane, Russ and Betsy Hansen, Clife and Faye Trezise, Joe and Ruth Haridin, John and Dorothy Williams, Dick and Elise Anderson, Jim and Shirley Parker, and Mike and Marge Mikkelsen.

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THE AMERICAN FLAG... was presented to the Brownie Troop 236 by the Altruism Club. The presentation is being made by Mrs. J. Osteen, Altruism president. Saluting the flag are Brownies Candy Voien and Marilyn DeVore.

Soroptimists Hear Lecture On Charm

In a monologue which stressed the "don'ts" on how to be charming, Mrs. Janice Murdock who conducts a charm school, captured the rapt attention of members of the Torrance-Gardena Soroptimist Club when she appeared before them at their regular meeting, held at 18301 S. Evelyn St. in Gardena, Tuesday noon.

Going from charm to poise, Mrs. Murdock said to cultivate this enviable manner one must stop and think before blurting out whatever you have to say. Charm she defined as living by the Golden Rule of "doing unto others what you would have them unto you."

Members who have been on the sick list and have recuperated were welcomed to the group. Those attending were Helen Dill, Mary Pagac, Dr. Virginia Tyler and Margaret Woolley.

Attending the meeting was a Bernice Snow of the Harbor Soroptimist as well as guests Marie Fatout, Ivy Walton and Ruth Shrum.

Members present were Laila Bowen, Kay Doss, Eddie Walter, Mary Lemberger, Charlotte Lukes, Clara Conner, Edna Salhus, Norma Higgenbotham, Helen Rogers, Addie Parks, Margaret Neff, Winona Ellis and Margaret Herron.

PTA ACTIVITIES

Madrona

"Why Safety Precautions Are Vital" will be the topic of the program of the Madrona PTA meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30 in the school patio. The program will be given by the teachers with student participation. E. Burris, Mrs. L. Lowry and Miss A. Mason are safety PTA chairmen.

Musio will be provided by the El Camino Choral group.

Madrona Ave. PTA held a coffee klatch Wednesday morning at the home of Mrs. Raymond Ottosen, 926 Cranbrook. The proceeds went to the new library mobile unit at Madrona School.

Edith Dahlen, fashion coordinator, gave an interesting talk on fashions, correct posture and selecting the right kind of clothes; Lou Burrows of Hollywood discussed modeling, make-up and posture.

Attending were Mmes. Lynn Horbeck, Jean Fedoruk, Doris Eaconell, Eileen Emma, Eva Brundin, Barbara Fredrickson, Celia Van Anda, Elizabeth Steele, Betty Shelby, Doris Routh, Lillian King, Joyce Turner, Jean Scholanus, Jessie Harp, Juanita Jackson, Cathryn Savage, Patricia Cantle, Joyce Borland, Lou Burrows.

Others were Barbara Hardin, Barbara Schooley, Dorothy Petrat, Wilma Murdock, J. Inz Albright, Ruth Patten, Rhoda Major, Carmela Burke, Beverly Stupp, Bert Davis, Mildred McDade, Jean Hagenbaugh, Lois Hale, Josie Johns, Lois Fuller, Esther O'Connell, Helen Brooker, Edith Dahlen, Beverly Dyer, and Petey Ottosen.

Sending donations but unable to attend were Barbara Burrows, Ruth Vaughn and Alleen Hattiem.

Riviera

Lena Malmstrom of Sweden and Max Wills of Germany, American Field Service International Scholarship students, will be the featured speakers at the March 16 meeting of the Riviera PTA to be held at the school at 8 p.m. A surprise program is being given by the fathers under the direction of Tom Mabin.

To complete the outstanding program, parents will be treated to a selection of American folk songs presented by the Glee Club. The mixed chorus is composed of students from the fourth through the sixth grade. Mrs. Kay Loftus, director of the group, stated that the children have studied and developed an appreciation of many different types of American folk music. From this field the students selected five songs that they will present on the Wednesday night program.

Election of officers for the coming year will be held during the business meeting. Hostesses for the evening will be Mmes. Philip Downing, Martin McDaniel, William Schone-man, David Thompson, Forbes Sherry, Cecil McClung, R. C. Anderson, and Ernest Neu.

NURSERY SCHOOL HAS BUSY AGENDA

Torrance Co-op Parent Nursery school and members of the parent education class were hosts at the premier showing of the motion picture, "He Who Dares to Teach" at the Crenshaw Elementary school. The picture was filmed in color at the nursery school.

Among those present were Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools and Raymond E. Col-

Council

At the Torrance Council PTA board meeting last Tuesday morning, Mrs. A. MacKenzie, honorary life chairman, told of the final plans which have been made for the yearly dinner given in honor of the honorary life recipient, on March 21. Invitations have gone out to all of the known holders of this award in the area for the dinner and program to be held at the Women's Club.

The council has honored six outstanding citizens in Torrance since 1951 for their constant service to individuals in the community. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of the Torrance School District, was the recipient in 1952. In 1953, Sgt. D. C. Cook was honored for his intense interest in the problems of youth delinquency. The 1954 awards went to two people who constantly devote their time to serving humanity. Mrs. Dorothy Jamieson, city librarian, and Robert Plomert. This year's awards were again received by two well-known and capable people in Torrance, Dr. Howard Wood and Mrs. Eleanor Ruffel. Dr. Wood served as president of the Board of Education from 1947 to 1951 and was TEAC moderator of the past year. Mrs. Ruffel has been active for 13 years in PTA work and also devotes a part of her life to Scout work and church.

The money that is paid to the California Congress of PTA for this honorary life membership is put into a fund for scholarships and fellowships to be granted to those interested in furthering their education. Mrs. Don West is president of the Parent Education class.

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